

As We Gather

Fear always leads us back into bondage to our ego-based programs for success in this world. This is "the flesh" of which Paul speaks in today's Epistle. But we don't owe that fleshly program anything. Following the path of self-preservation or self-advancement at the expense of others leads to death. Rather, by faith in Jesus we are led by the Spirit of God, having been adopted as sons and daughters in Holy Baptism. This Spirit of adoption grants full sonship and leads us to join Jesus in boldly addressing God as our "Abba! Father!"

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. It is the belief of the Lutheran Church, based on Jesus' own words, that in this Sacrament His body and blood are really present and that forgiveness of sins and the assurance of salvation are offered to all who come confessing their sins and believing in Him. Communion is therefore offered to those who share this confession of faith. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Guests who may have questions about Communion at Mt. Calvary are encouraged to talk to Pastor Brighton.

PRELUDE**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING****OPENING HYMN:***"Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens"***Hymn #589****THE INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

(please kneel)

Abba! Father!

How easily we turn a deaf ear to Your living voice in Your Word both when You call us to honest account for our thoughts, words, and actions, and also when You speak graciously of Your tender, fatherly love for us. By living according to our prideful plans for success, we live the lie that we are somehow indebted to the flesh to fulfill its lustful desires. Have mercy on us, O God, forgive our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

People loved by Jesus, you have not received the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons and daughters, by whom we cry together:

"Abba! Father!"

Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: *"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"*

**God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity.**

**There is nothing worth comparing
To this life-long comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
"I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!"**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray. Abba! Father! You have given us the Spirit of adoption in the waters of our Baptism. Grant that we may come to know and believe Your Word that makes us what You always intended us to be: Your own beloved sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns in communion and love with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 55:10–13 *(God's Word accomplishes His purposes.)*

¹⁰ "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: Romans 8:12–17 (*All believers receive the Spirit of adoption as God's children.*)

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

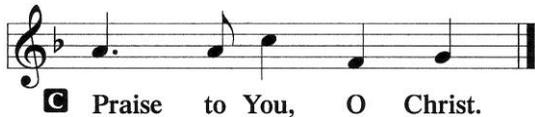
Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23 (*The Word of the Kingdom as seed being sown.*)

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶ but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear."

¹⁸ "Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³ As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Pete LeBorious
Director of Christian Education

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

Hymn #577

THE MESSAGE:

"Which Spirit?"

Pastor David Brighton

INSTALLATION OF VICAR BRAD WELLIK

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS: After each petition, the Worship Leader will say, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation will respond, "**Hear our prayer.**"

THE GATHERING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

**The Pentecost Season is all about the growth of the Christian Church.
We use this time to study God's Word and then go out into our community
To share the love of Jesus as we call people to repentance and faith!**

"Go and make disciple of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Matthew 28:18-19

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

**Renew me, O Eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word,
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.**

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom we have received the Spirit of adoption as sons. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Mount Calvary has received memorial donations in memory of Gene Mittuch from Richard & Pat Stetzler, Leo & JoAnn Ladzinske, Erv & Kathy Robinson, Champ & Pat Aldredge, Betty Cummings and The Ladies Guild.

Prayer Group - This coming Thursday, July 20, 7:00 to 8:00 pm our prayer group will meet in the cry room. Anyone is welcome to join us as we pray for our church, our community, and our own concerns.

At the end of the school year, the Board of Education identified 364 homeless kids in Houston County. That included **10 kids living in cars (3 families)**. Family Promise strives to end homelessness one family at a time. **For as little as \$2.47 a week**, you can help support Family Promise by joining **CLUB 247**. Forms are available at the Information Desk, along with a chart to remind you what \$2.47 a week will buy.

PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Glenda Hetes, Steve's mom, who died July 12th.

Sallie Brinkley, for healing of a broken bone in her foot.

Marlene Miller, who is recovering from gastric hernia surgery.

Steve Kaestner, who is recovering from back surgery.

Shirley Ermi, who had a slight stroke.

Joe Hill, Cynthia Nelson's dad, who had a serious skin cancer removed from his head and will be receiving radiation treatments for it.

Susan Bridwell, Barbara Jernigan's sister, who is bedridden with a broken foot.

Gene Brantley, who has a mass in his intestine.

Keep In Your Prayers

Karen Harmon, Kim Rekau, Diane McCall, Cynthia Trichinotis, Melanie Cureton (Maggie Monahan's daughter), Helen Giese, Jean Dimeler, Jacque Bohm, Kathy Clark (Barb Jernigan's sister), Marilu Cowan, Deloris Denzine and Karen Johnson.

(NOTE: Those listed under "Keep in your prayers" are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.)

Those Battling Cancer

Jeanne Day (Bob's mom), Chet Branscom, Jace Cumbie (Amanda McVay's boyfriend's son), Diana Iverson (Bonnie Hudlin's sister-in-law), Barry Rice (Becky McVay's brother), Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt), Kathy Grube, Mary Schwope (Michele Durbin's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom) and Bruce Oswalt (Krystal Ferguson's father).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.

REFORMATION 500

As we count down the days to the 500th anniversary celebration of the beginning of the Reformation, our Reformation 500 Committee has been hard at work. The highlight of our celebration as a congregation will be our worship services on the weekend of October 28/29, but an added highlight will include the community – Oktoberfest! **Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 28th from 2-6 pm.** We will have a huge tent covering part of the lawn between the church and the Annex and entertainment will be provided by a professional Polka Band (watch for announcements about Polka dancing lessons if you're interested!), "Table Talk" around the Luther dinner table, an appearance by Luther himself (our new vicar!), a Reformation Walk through the Education Wing that will tell the story of the Reformation, and a tour to show people the stained glass windows and their significance.

As we near the celebration, the Reformation 500 Committee would like to offer the following opportunities for our members to help make Oktoberfest happen:

- Interested people are welcome to help organize and plan the Walk through the Reformation – we will need some help with costumes, scenery, actors, set-up and take-down. Look for a sign-up sheet at the Information Desk soon.
- Since **we're expecting a big crowd – up to 500 people**, we would like to have "golf cart service" to bring folks from our parking lots, especially the lower lot, over to the Oktoberfest location. We are looking for a golf cart (or 2 or 3) that we could borrow for the afternoon. The golf cart would need to hold more than 2 people.
- We're going to have all the food provided (genuine German brats, hot dogs, potato salad, etc. for a very reasonable price) but we need volunteers to help make desserts. Again, look for a sign-up sheet at the Information Desk soon.
- We are going to make our own Reformation T-Shirts and we'll need to get an idea of how many T-shirts (and sizes) we'll need, so be looking for a "pre-order" form at the Information Desk in the near future. We hope everyone will wear their T-shirts for the big celebration on October 28th!

If you can help with any of the above items, please sign up when the sign-up sheets are made available. If you have a golf cart to lend for Oktoberfest, please speak to Pastor Brighton.

Our Reformation 500 celebration also includes:

- "95 Days through the New Testament," which will begin on Thursday, July 27th as we read through the New Testament together as a church family.
- A showing of the 2003 Luther Movie in the Fellowship Hall (popcorn and pop included!) on Friday, July 28th at 7:15 pm. Invite your friends! Babysitting included!
- A showing of the brand new 500th anniversary Luther movie at Houston Lakes Cinema on Highway 96 in October – date and time TBD.

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Pastor David Brighton. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Darron Counselman (8 am) and Bill Gragg (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Abigail Halsell (8 am) and Zoe Babcock (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early – Dick Kesler, Brent Durbin, Doug Fingles & Doug Branham. Late – Don Netzinger, Adam Beecher, Dave Miller, Bob Day & Larry Ellgass. **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles, Kathy Grube, Susan Julson & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** Lexie Hadley (8 am) and D. J. Nelson (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Roger Moeller. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Lyle Wurdeman (8 am) & Josh Johnson (10:45 am).

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Rob Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Eric Jenkins (Sun 8 am) and Roger Moeller (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Christopher Crawford (Sat 6 pm), Abby Soisson (Sun 8 am) and Koda Cook (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Debbie Fingles, Kathy Grube, Susan Julson & Linna Nielsen. **LAY READERS:** Debi Cole (Sat 6 pm), Steve Kirchoff (Sun 8 am) and Bonnie Hudlin (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Barbara Locke (8 am) and Earl & Dot Bogardus (10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 44:6-8 and Romans 8:18-27

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday 6 pm – 55 Sunday 8 am – 71 Sunday 10:45 am – 145 Total – 271
Karenni Worship - 99

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	Installation of Vicar Brad Wellik (8:00 & 10:45 am)	
	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)
	6:30 pm	TAG Night
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Council
Wednesday	12 – 3 pm	WAM – Rigby's
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	7 – 8 pm	Prayer Group
Saturday	3:00 pm	Karenni Bible Study (Annex)
	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	11:00 am	Karenni Worship Service (Annex)

VANCO
Online
Giving

